GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1385
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
IMPLEMENTATION OF HALL- MARKING
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hall-Marking of Gold ornaments has been made mandatory;

(b) if so, whether necessary infrastructure is available in the country for its implementation;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of Hall-Marking centres established in the country so far;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the additional infrastructure required for the purpose as on date; and

(e) the steps taken to provide adequate infrastructure for Hall-Marking in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): No, Sir.

(b)& (c): In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(d): Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery has not been made compulsory primarily due to absence of enabling legislative framework for its implementation under Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

(e): In order to facilitate establishing adequate infrastructure in the country, under the Scheme for setting up of Gold Hallmarking & Assaying Centres, one time financial assistance @ 15% of cost of machinery and equipment subject to maximum of Rs. 15 lakh per centre for all States except locations of North- East and special category States namely Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand for which such financial assistance @ 30% of cost of machinery & equipment subject to maximum of Rs. 30 lakh per centre, is extended to the eligible applicants.